SOS Token - Generation Initialization   EOS Token - Generation Termination

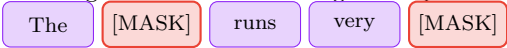| [SOS] | The | cat | runs | fast | | Task | completed | successfully | [EOS] |

Function: Initialization
Conditions first token generation

Function: Termination
Signals sequence completion

MASK Token - Bidirectional Learning

| The | [MASK] | runs | very | [MASK] |

Comparative Analysis

Function: Prediction

Aspect	SOS Token	EOS Token	MASK Token
Position	Start only	End only	Any position
Context	No context	Left context	Bidirectional
Training	Autoregressive	Autoregressive	MLM
Purpose	Initialization	Termination	Prediction
In Output	Removed	Optional	Replaced
Models	GPT, T5	GPT, T5	BERT, RoBERTa

Usage Patterns in Different Architectures

GPT-style Models
Autoregressive Generation

| [SOS] | tokens | [EOS] |

Applications:
Text generation, Translation,
Dialogue systems

BERT-style Models
Bidirectional Understanding

| tokens | [MASK] | tokens |

Applications:
Language understanding,
Classification, QA